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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee

1. The Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee considered the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (agenda item 13) at its 13th to 15th, 17th and 18th meetings, on 19, 22 and 24 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (A/46/229);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (A/46/204-E/1991/80 and Add.1);

(c) Report of the President of the Economic and Social Council on consultations held with the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid (E/1991/116).

GE.91-71460/0944H

2. At its 13th and 14th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the item.

3. At the 13th meeting, on 19 July, it heard introductory statements by the representative of the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and by the Vice-Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid.

4. At the same meeting, statments were made by the representatives of Thailand, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Algeria, China, Jordan, Bahrain, the Syrian Arab Republic and the observer for Egypt. The observer for Palestine made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Development Programme.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee made a statement.

6. At the 14th meeting on 19 July, the representative of Zambia made a statement.

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the interntional institutions associated with the United Nations

7. At the 17th meeting, on 24 July, the representative of Zambia on behalf of Algeria, the Bahamas, Cuba, 1/ Ghana, 1/ Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 1/ Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, 1/ the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Uganda 1/ and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.3/L.11) entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations".

8. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

9. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Chairman of the Committee read out revisions to the draft resolution, which had been agreed upon during information consultations.

10. Also at the 18th meeting, the representative of Zambia made a statement.

1/ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, by a roll-call vote of 47 to none, with 1 abstention (see para. 17 below, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows: 2/

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Peru, Romania, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

12. After the draft resolution was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zambia, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Sweden.

Assistance to the Palestinian people

13. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, the representative of Morocco, on behalf of Algeria, Cuba, 1/ Egypt, 1/ Indonesia, Iraq, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 1/ Morocco, Pakistan, the Sudan, 1/ Tunisia, Yemen 1/ and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.3/L.8) entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

14. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Committee adopted the draft resolution by 48 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (see para. 17 below, draft resolution II).

15. After the draft resolution was adopted, the representatives of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), Finland, Austria, Jordan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Sweden and Czechoslovakia made statements.

16. The observer for Palestine also made a statement.

2/ The delegations of Yugoslavia and Rwanda subsequently indicated that, had they been present during the voting, they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD (PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION) COMMITTEE

17. The Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General 3/ and the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council 4/ concerning the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations,

Having heard the statements made by the representative of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and by the Vice-Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies on the subject, including in particular Assembly resolution 45/18 of 20 November 1990 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/60 of 26 July 1990,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all effective measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to assist in the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies,

Also recalling General Assembly resolution S-16/1 of 14 December 1989, containing the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa,

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3/ A/46/229.

4/ E/1991/116.

Recognizing that permanent peace and stability in southern Africa can only be achieved when the system of apartheid in South Africa has been eradicated and South Africa has been transformed into a united, democratic and non-racial country, and reiterating, therefore, that all the necessary measures should be adopted at the present time to bring a speedy end to the apartheid system in the interest of all the people of southern Africa, the African continent and the world at large,

Deeply concerned that the objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples have not been fully achieved,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes and cyclones, and recalling relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Bearing in mind the conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations, held in New York from 25 to 29 June 1990, 5/

Noting with appreciation that assistance has continued to be extended to refugees from southern Africa through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

1. Takes note of the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council, 4/ and endorses the observations and suggestions contained therein;

2. Takes note also of the report of the Secretary-General; 3/

3. Reaffirms that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspiration of colonial peoples to exercise their right to self-determination and independence entails, as a corollary, the extension by the organizations of the United Nations system of all the necessary moral and material assistance to those peoples;

4. Expresses its appreciation to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate in varying forms and degrees with the United Nations and the regional organizations concerned in the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of United Nations bodies, and urges all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to contribute to the full and speedy implementation of the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

5. Recommends that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration and other related resolutions of the United Nations system;

5/ See A/CONF.147/5-TD/B/AC.46/4.

6. Requests the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate additional programmes of assistance to the remaining Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories within the framework of their respective mandates;

7. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as international and regional organizations, to take appropriate measures within their spheres of competence in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

8. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in formulating their assistance programmes, to take due account of the text entitled "Challenges and opportunities: A strategic framework", which was adopted unanimously by the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations; 6/

9. Welcomes the continued initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, and in coordinating the activities of the specialized agencies in extending effective assistance to the peoples of colonial Territories, and calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as a matter of urgency, to contribute generously to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in the Non-Self-Governing Territories affected by natural disasters;

10. Urges the administering Powers concerned to facilitate the participation of the representatives of the Governments of Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories at the relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations so that the Territories may draw the maximum benefits from the related activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system;

11. Urges the governing bodies of those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not already done so to include in the agenda of their regular sessions a separate item on the progress made and action to be taken by their organizations in the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of United Nations bodies;

12. Urges the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions and to submit the proposals as a matter of priority to their governing and legislative organs;

6/ Ibid., chap. II.

13. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to adhere to the Programme of Action contained in the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, in particular with regard to increased support for the opponents of apartheid, the use of concerted and effective measures aimed at applying pressure to ensure a speedy end to apartheid and ensuring the non-relaxation of existing measures to encourage the South African regime to eradicate apartheid until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible changes;

14. Stresses in the context of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, the need for the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to render all possible assistance to the front-line and neighbouring States to enable them to rebuild their economies, which have been adversely affected by South Africa's acts of aggression and destabilization, to withstand any further such acts and to continue to support the people of South Africa;

15. Draws the attention of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the second regular session of 1991 of the Economic and Social Council;

16. Requests the President of the Economic and Social Council to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to report thereon to the Council;

17. Also requests the President of the Council to maintain contact with the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, which is the focal point for the international campaign against apartheid, and to report thereon to the Council as appropriate;

18. Requests the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the present resolution, with particular attention to coordination and integration arrangements for maximizing the efficiency of the assistance activities undertaken by various organizations of the United Nations system, and to report thereon to the Council at its regular session of 1992;

19. Decides to keep these questions under continuous review.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Assistance to the Palestinian people

The Economic and Social Council recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Assistance to the Palestinian people

"The General Assembly

"Recalling its resolution 45/183 of 21 December 1990,

"Taking into account the intifada of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory against the Israeli occupation, including Israeli economic and social policies and practices,

"Rejecting Israeli restrictions on external economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory,

"Concerned about the economic losses of the Palestinian people as a result of the Gulf crisis,

"Aware of the increasing need to provide economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people,

"Affirming that the Palestinian people cannot develop their national economy as long as the Israeli occupation persists,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people; 7/

"2. Expresses its appreciation to the States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have provided assistance to the Palestinian people;

"3. Requests the international community, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to sustain and increase their assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization, taking into account the economic losses of the Palestinian people as a result of the Gulf crisis;

"4. Calls for treatment on a transit basis of Palestinian exports and imports passing through neighbouring ports and points of exit and entry;

"5. Also calls for the granting of trade concessions and concrete preferential measures for Palestinian exports on the basis of Palestinian certificates of origin;

"6. Further calls for the immediate lifting of Israeli restrictions and obstacles hindering the implementation of assistance projects by the United Nations Development Programme, other United Nations bodies and others providing economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory;

7/ A/46/204-E/1991/80 and Add.1.

"7. Reiterates its call for the implementation of development projects in the occupied Palestinian territory, including the projects mentioned in its resolution 39/223 of 18 December 1984;

"8. Calls for facilitation of the establishment of Palestinian development banks in the occupied Palestinian territory, with a view to promoting investment, production, employment and income therein;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution."